

Social Studies Update

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Questions?

Contact Stefanie Wager, social studies consultant at the Iowa Department of Education, at stefanie.wager@iowa.gov or 515-725-7842

2015 Best Practices in Social Studies Institute Registration is open!

Registration for the 2015 Best Practices in Social Studies Institute is open. The Institute is FREE for any K-12 social studies teacher in Iowa. It will be held at the State Historical Museum (600 E. Locust Des Moines) June 29-30, 2015. Sessions will be provided on project based learning, proven

practices of civic education, National History Day, Docs Teach from the National Archives, the Medal of Honor Foundation, Echoes and Reflections, and much more. To see the at-a-glance schedule for the Institute go [here](#). License renewal credit will be available and you will

be able earn credit even if you attended last year's Institute. Additional information about license renewal credit will be available at the Institute. To register go [HERE](#). Questions? Contact Stefanie Wager at stefanie.wager@iowa.gov.

Iowa Social Studies News

Iowa History Teacher of the Year Honored

James Hardy from East Union Schools is the 2014 Iowa History Teacher of the Year. The award, sponsored by the Gilder Lehrman Institute is awarded annually to an Iowa teacher who teaches American History. Winners receive \$1,000 and a classroom library of resources from the Gilder Lehrman Institute. For more information check out

<https://www.gilderlehrman.org/programs-exhibitions/national-history-teacher-year>. To see all of the Iowa teachers who were honored go to [here](#).



Iowa State University Launches FREE Course on Iowa History

Iowa State University is offering a FREE and open four-week course dedicated to the teaching of Iowa history. The course will combine content and pedagogy and will be taught both online and in-person. Check out the full story about the course [here](#). Want more information about the course or want to sign up? Go [here](#).

Social Studies News

Towards Deeper Civic Learning

Recently, Peter Levine, one of the nation's experts on civic learning wrote a piece in Ed Week entitled, "Towards Deeper Civic Learning." The basic premise is that the deeper the learning, the more students are empowered to be good citizens. Check it out [here](#). Check out his full report on deeper learning in civics [here](#).

Judges Still Needed for Iowa National History Day Contest

This year, the state-level competition for National History Day is going to be held May 4th at the Iowa Events Center. You do not need previous experience in order to judge. Parking and lunch will be provided for all judges. To sign up go [here](#). Questions? Contact Katie Craven at katie.craven@iowa.gov.

15 Minute Auschwitz Documentary Premier

Auschwitz, a brand new 15-minute documentary on the history of the Nazi death camp, produced by Steven Spielberg and narrated by Meryl Streep, will be permanently installed at the Auschwitz Memorial. The documentary premiered last month at the camp in observance of the 70th anniversary of its liberation. You can view the documentary by going [here](#).

Social Studies Resources

Check out Zoom In!

Zoom In is a free online platform that supports middle-school US history teachers and students as they dive into primary and secondary-source documents, collect textual evidence, and build understanding through writing. Through a grant from the Gates Foundation, the platform will launch to the public in Spring of 2015 with 18 lessons across the course of US History. Before that launch, the Zoom In team is opening up early access for select teachers to use in their classrooms and provide feedback. Interested in finding out more? Visit the Zoom In Youtube page at <http://zoomin.cct.edc.org> or email Noah Goodman at ngoodman@edc.org.

Teaching Tolerance Releases New Film on Selma

Teaching Tolerance, a project of the Southern Poverty Law Center, has released a new video entitled, "Selma: The Bridge to the Ballot." The film tells the story of a courageous group of students and teachers who fought a nonviolent battle to win voting rights for African Americans in the South. Teachers can order this kit for FREE. The kit includes the documentary, a viewer's guide, a timeline, and a map. Go [here](#) to order your kit. You can access additional resources on the teaching of Selma [here](#).

"No man is good enough to govern another man without the other's consent."

-Abraham Lincoln

New Issue of History Now

The Gilder Lehrman Institute has released a new issue of their quarterly publication—History Now. The theme of this issue is The Civil Rights Act of 1964: Legislating Equality. Each issue includes featured essays, lesson plans, an interactive timeline and more. Check it out [here](#).

Perspectives for a Diverse America

Teaching Tolerance has launched a new resource called Perspectives for a Diverse America. The resource allows you to select an essential question, select a central text and build in tasks and strategies. Check it out [here](#).

Bills of Rights Institute Launches Voices of History

Voices of History is a relatively new resource offered by the Bill of Rights Institute. On the site you can explore all of their curricula virtually as well as explore key primary source documents in US History. Check it out [here](#).

Professional Development Opportunities

C-SPAN Educators Conference

This summer, C-SPAN will hold two conferences for middle and high school educators. Airfare, hotel, and meals are all provided during the conference. Go [here](#) for the application. The deadline to apply is Friday, April 3, 2015.

Primarily Teaching

Each summer the National Archives offers several workshops at their regional centers around the country. This year workshops will be offered in Atlanta, Chicago, Seattle, Washington DC, and West Branch, Iowa. Each workshop will focus on a specific topic or theme. The cost for each workshop is \$100. Go to <http://www.archives.gov/education/primarily-teaching/> for more information and to sign up.

Institute for Civic Engagement

The University of Iowa and Hoover Presidential Foundation are again putting on an Institute for Civic Engagement this summer. The Institute runs from June 8-19 online and then June 21-23 at the University of Iowa. Almost all expenses are covered. Go [here](#) for more information.

Buchwald Fellowship for Teachers of American History and Government

The Ashbrook Center is providing scholarships for at least one teacher from each state to complete graduate coursework in American History or Government as Buchwald Fellows. Participants receive free tuition, including room and board for a summer course. For more information or to apply go [here](#).

Truman Library Offers Teachers Conference

The Truman Library will offer a conference exclusively for teachers from July 13-17. This year's theme is 1945: V.P & President. War End." The National Archives, the Library of Congress and the Midwest Center for Holocaust Education will share resources. Most expenses will be provided. For more information go [here](#).

Dr. Doug Fisher Coming to Grand View University

Grand View University and the Jacobson Institute for Innovation in Education is bringing Dr. Doug Fisher to Des Moines on Saturday, April 11th from 8 am-1 pm. This event is free and open to all educators, but you must register. Go [here](#) to learn more to register.

"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them."

-John F. Kennedy

Ashbrook Center Weekend Colloquia

The Ashbrook Center is offering four weekend colloquia experiences that bring teachers to historic sites and gives them the opportunity to discuss historic documents with scholars. Most expenses are paid. Go [here](#) for more information and to

Programs in International Educational Resources (PIER)

PIER is offering a summer institute from July 6-10 that will focus on climate change and food security. There is an optional field trip to Morocco as part of the Institute. Go [here](#) for more information and to apply. Questions? Contact PIER@yale.edu.

FREE Online Course on Global Education

This course, offered by the NEA Foundation, introduces participants to key ideas and methods for connecting their classrooms to the global world. Check it out at <http://www.neafoundation.org/pages/courses/>

Women's History Month



"I may be the first woman member of Congress but I won't be the last."

-Jeanette Rankin

- There are several resources available to honor and celebrate Women's History Month.
 - Bill of Rights Institute
 - [Votes for Women](#)
 - [Women's Rights in the Late 20th Century](#)
 - US Courts
 - [Female Judges Make Federal Court History](#)
 - Constitutional Rights Foundation
 - [How Women Won the Right to Vote](#)
 - National Constitution Center
 - [Decoding the Lyrics: Women's Suffrage](#) with [analysis sheet](#)
 - [Women of Power](#)
 - US Government
 - [Women's History Month resources](#)
 - New York Times
 - [Women's History Month resources](#)
 - National Endowment for the Humanities
 - [Women's History Month resources](#)
 - Library of Congress Law Library
 - [Women's History Month resources](#)

Financial Literacy Corner

Department of Education Financial Literacy Summit

The Iowa Department of Education is hosting the Iowa Financial Literacy Summit on May 5th at the Iowa Events Center. Registration is \$50 and includes a light breakfast, lunch, and a snack. Key-note speakers include Adam Carroll, and Jack Kosakowski (CEO, Junior Achievement). The Summit includes sessions targeted at educators, students, and the general public. For more information about the Summit and to register go [here](#). See the full story [here](#).



JA Biz Town Summer Camps

Junior Achievement is again offering summer camps for students aged 10-12 years old. The campers will figure business expenses, learn to operate a business, and manage savings and checking accounts.

For more information or to register go [here](#). Questions? Contact Deb Schneider at deb@jacentraliowa.org.

Financial Literacy Corner

- The **Money Smart Kid Essay Contest** sponsored by *Iowa Bankers Association* is available again after a great response last year. This year's question (to be answered in 300 words or less) is: *What is the biggest obstacle to saving your money? What technological and/or banking solutions might help you and your friends begin to save?* The winner of the essay contest will win a \$1,000 award! Additional program details are available on the following Iowa Jump\$tart Coalition web page.
Applicable Grade Levels: **7-11**
Applicable Deadline: **March 27, 2015**
Information Link: <http://iowajumpstart.org/whatwedo/msw-iowa/>
- The **Money Smart Week Poster Contest** sponsored by *Community Bankers of Iowa* is a way for younger students to demonstrate their knowledge and artistic abilities in a fun competition for three individual Certificates of Deposit. As part of Money Smart Week 2015, elementary students can submit poster designs to community banks across Iowa. Posters should answer the question: *Why is it important to know about money?*
Applicable Grade Levels: **2-6**
Applicable Deadline: **April 13, 2015**
Information Link: [Download Poster](#)
- The **FinanceChallenge** is available for the first time in 2015 as part of Iowa's Money Smart Week! This event is an online competition of teams that tests the financial literacy level of contestants. There are prizes available and a chance for a free trip to Kansas City for the national competition for the best scoring teams! The FinanceChallenge is sponsored by *Iowa Jump\$tart* and *Wells Fargo* and administered by *Dordt College Center for Economic Education*. Though there is no official Iowa division in 2015, there is also an [EconChallenge](#) available for interested teachers.
Applicable Grade Levels: **5-12**
Event Date: **April 20-24, 2015**
Information Link: <https://financechallenge.unl.edu>
- We are excited to announce that the **Money Smart Week** event calendar is now open. We hope that all of you will join us once again in this annual opportunity to help consumers make informed financial decisions and be Money Smart. Each year we've seen tremendous growth in both participation and outreach for this event. In 2014 we engaged over 250,000 consumers nationwide – we can't wait to see how many people we can encourage to be Money Smart in 2015!
Event Date: **April 18-25, 2015**
Information Link: <http://www.moneysmartweek.org>
- When students sign up to receive college tips and tools from **Wells Fargo's CollegeSTEPS®** program, they'll automatically be entered in the CollegeSTEPS sweepstakes for a chance to win \$1,000. Plus, they'll get emails with information designed to help keep them on track with money management and college planning. Please download the flier for more information on how your students can win.
Applicable Grade Levels: **9-12 and all college levels**
Deadline: **August 13, 2015**
Information Link: wellsfargo.com/collegeguidance
- The **Iowa Department of Revenue** is pleased to continue its work with the Iowa Jump\$tart Coalition to promote financial literacy education. That education should include basic knowledge about how to complete a tax return. To assist with the development of that knowledge, the Department has created a **student packet with examples, exercises, and instructions for teachers to expose students to the basics of completing an Iowa 1040 Individual Income tax return**. The Department encourages the usage of this packet and welcomes any questions you may have about the information presented. Please contact idr@iowa.gov.
NOTE: A revised 2014 packet was just released! Please use the new one in place of the 2013 packet.
Applicable Grade Levels:
Applicable Deadline: **None**
Information Link: <http://wp.me/pBRDg-lZ>

*"A penny saved is
a penny earned."*

-Benjamin
Franklin